United Nations S/2002/698

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 June 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 24 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to submit to you, in your capacity as President of the Security Council in June 2002, a matter relating to the requirements of Article 50 of the United Nations Charter concerning the losses incurred by Tunisia as a result of the consequences of the embargo imposed on Iraq by the Security Council since 1990.

Tunisia has been bringing this matter to the attention of the Security Council since 1992, and wishes to do so again, given that the consequences of the sanctions imposed on Iraq for the past 11 years have accumulated and have damaged Tunisia's economy. The value of the losses suffered by my country up to the end of May 2002 as a result of the embargo against Iraq amount to approximately $7 billion.

The repercussions of 11 September 2001 have exacerbated the effect of those losses for the Tunisian economy and have caused the Government of Tunisia to redouble its efforts and seek means capable of easing the burden caused by these repercussions. Since the international economic situation has become critical, the Tunisian Government feels that it is imperative to bring the matter to the attention of the Security Council so that the latter can enable it to overcome these problems within the framework of its trade with Iraq.

In addition, the Tunisian economy has also suffered other losses as a result of the continuing drought and its adverse consequences for the revenue of the agricultural sector and the decline in revenue from tourism, which is an important source of income for the country and provides the livelihood for large segments of the population. Furthermore, the development process requires additional efforts to maintain rates of growth and exports and to secure sources of energy and guarantee that they are available at fixed prices.

A large number of Tunisian companies have been particularly badly affected by sanctions, since Iraq provides a vital and indispensable market for Tunisian products and services and thus for the national economy. The decline in Tunisian exports to Iraq has created enormous difficulties for my country, which are being exacerbated especially by the fact that Tunisia was linked to Iraq before 1990 by a substantial volume of trade within the context of a long-term framework agreement involving the exchange of Iraqi crude oil for Tunisian goods and products.

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It is worth noting in this connection that satisfying the demand for compensation is not in itself a guarantee that the Tunisian companies damaged by the sanctions regime in the important Iraqi market will prosper; besides, compensation is confined to past losses.

Today many Tunisian companies exporting to Iraq under the oil-for-food and medicine programme have problems in executing a large number of the trade contracts concluded with Iraq as a result of the suspension measures in force in the sanctions committee. Many of these measures concern very costly contracts, entailing breakdowns in the agreements or a failure to execute them within the time stipulated; this leads to substantial losses for the companies concerned and limits prospects for support for their commercial activities.

Thousands of Tunisians have been unable to return to continue their work in Iraq owing to the embargo, and a large number of Tunisian experts in various fields have lost the opportunity to work in that country for the same reason.

The accumulation of all these consequences of the embargo imposed on Iraq is bound to have an adverse effect on a developing country such as Tunisia, which is doing everything within its power to promote its national economy and is steadfastly seeking to meet the challenges of growth and development.

The Republic of Tunisia requests the Security Council to take note once more of the very serious impact of the sanctions and the challenges which the Tunisian national economy continues to face since the imposition of the embargo regime on Iraq. It insists in this connection on the necessity for you to understand its urgent and vital need to maintain its national interests in cooperation with Iraq on the basis of Article 50 of the United Nations Charter.

(*Signed*) Noureddine **Mejdoub**

United Nations A/ES-10/182–S/2002/699

General Assembly
Security Council

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24 June 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 24 June 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues its brutal military campaign against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority. The Israeli occupying forces continue to terrorize the Palestinian population, causing further death and destruction as they continue to carry out intensive military raids and assaults throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

In the pre-dawn hours (Palestine time) of today, the Israeli occupying forces raided the Palestinian city of Ramallah, with dozens of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and bulldozers, entering the city from all directions. Several tanks and carriers surrounded and even entered the already battered headquarters of President Yasser Arafat, in addition to Israeli snipers that occupied positions around the President's compound. At the same time, Israeli helicopter gunships continued to circle above the city. Machine gunfire was heard throughout the city, particularly in the area of the Amari refugee camp.

As of this time, the Israeli occupying forces have invaded and reoccupied most of the major Palestinian cities and population centres. The occupying forces have imposed a widespread curfew on the Palestinian population, in addition to the ongoing military siege of Palestinian areas, essentially confining hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to their homes. This has once again brought the already devastated Palestinian socio-economic life to a grinding halt. Moreover, hundreds of Palestinians are now being illegally detained by the occupying forces along with those who continue to be detained following previous raids and round-ups carried out throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The Israeli occupying forces also continued to pursue the illegal practice of extrajudicial execution. Today, the occupying forces carried out an execution by helicopter gunship missile attack in Rafah in Gaza, killing the targeted person as well as five other Palestinians and wounding several others.

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In addition to the continuous and innumerable illegal actions committed by the Israeli occupying forces during recent months, these newest developments, including the call by the Israeli military for more reservists, indeed indicate that the occupying forces are entrenching for a prolonged reoccupation of Palestinian population centres.

The international community cannot continue to stand idly by while the Palestinian people continue to suffer under the brute force of the Israeli military occupation and continuing Israeli military assaults. The Security Council must carry out its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security. The Council should condemn such illegal Israeli actions and take measures to ensure the immediate withdrawal of the occupying forces from all Palestinian areas. We call once again upon the Security Council to immediately consider the situation and to take the necessary action in this regard, including action to ensure the full implementation of its own resolutions 1402 (2002) and 1403 (2002).

In follow-up to my previous 128 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 21 June 2002 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123 S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149; A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166; A/ES-10/133-S/2001/1239; A/ES-10/134-S/2001/1261; A/ES-10/136-S/2002/18; A/ES-10/137-S/2002/39; A/ES-10/138-S/2002/48; A/ES-10/139-S/2002/58; A/ES-10/140-S/2002/89; A/ES-10/141-S/2002/95; A/ES-10/142-S/2002/102; A/ES-10/143-S/2002/121; A/ES-10/144-S/2002/142; A/ES-10/145-S/2002/146; A/ES-10/146-S/2002/165; A/ES-10/147-S/2002/175; A/ES-10/148-S/2002/182;

A/ES-10/149-S/2002/186; A/ES-10/150-S/2002/214; A/ES-10/151-S/2002/223; A/ES-10/152-S/2002/232; A/ES-10/154-S/2002/242; A/ES-10/155-S/2002/248; A/ES-10/156-S/2002/249; A/ES-10/157-S/2002/253, A/ES-10/158-S/2002/258; A/ES-10/159-S/2002/281; A/ES-10/160-S/2002/307; A/ES-10/161-S/2002/319; A/ES-10/162-S/2002/330; A/ES-10/163-S/2002/340; A/ES-10/164-S/2002/353; A/ES-10/165-S/2002/356; A/ES-10/166-S/2002/370; A/ES/10/167-S/2002/433; A/ES-10/168-S/2002/474; A/ES-10/169-S/2002/495; A/ES-10/173-S/2002/536; A/ES-10/174-S/2002/555; A/ES-10/175-S/2002/610; A/ES-10/176-S/2002/617; A/ES-10/177-S/2002/641; A/ES-10/178-S/2002/650; A/ES-10/179-S/2002/654; A/ES-10/180-S/2002/686 and A/ES-10/181-S/2002/697), it is my regret to inform you that, since my last letter to you, at least 2 more Palestinians have been killed by Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed since 28 September 2000 to 1,644 people. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified thus far are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Somaia **Barghouti**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex to the identical letters dated 24 June 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem[a] (Sunday, 23 June 2002)

1. Iyad Tayseer Samoudy
2. Islam Juma'a Arheel

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[a] The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 1,644.

United Nations S/2002/700

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 June 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 24 June 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to my letter dated 27 March 2002 (S/2002/318) and its annex which set out a work programme for the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) for the third 90-day period. I attach herewith the Committee's work programme for the fourth 90-day period (see annex).

The Committee continues to welcome the support it has received so far from the United Nations membership in the implementation of its mandate and looks forward to continuing cooperation in the coming work period. The Committee will continue to work even-handedly and transparently. As Chairman, I will continue to brief the wider membership regularly. In its fourth 90-day period, the Committee will continue to build a dialogue with States on the reports submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). In this work period, the Committee will focus on the follow-up reports submitted by States and on extending and deepening its liaison with international and regional organizations. The Committee calls upon the 29 States that have not yet submitted a first report to do so as quickly as possible.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

02-44118 (E) 250602

Annex

Work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (26 June-23 September 2002)

The present document sets out the work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for its fourth 90 days from the adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (i.e., the period from 26 June to 23 September 2002). This work programme updates the programme submitted for the third 90-day period.

Summary

The Committee will:

By 31 July:

- Have made contact through subcommittees with all United Nations Member States
- Review one third of the second round of reports
- Improve the format and content of the directory of assistance
- Have begun regular liaison with regional organizations on assistance and other matters

By 31 August:

- Have reviewed two thirds of the second round of reports

By 23 September:

- Complete the second review of reports
- Issue an updated list of contact points
- Make the directory of assistance and information a user-friendly tool for States to draw on for the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

Detail

1. Contact points

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has taken steps to facilitate dialogue with States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and between States about the matters covered by resolution 1373 (2001) through the publication of a directory of contact points. The Committee will continue to update the directory at regular intervals. It encourages all States to strengthen cooperation on the matters covered by resolution 1373 (2001).

2. Advisers to the Committee

A group of independent experts has been appointed by the Secretariat with the approval of the Committee to advise it on its work. A group of six experts will review the reports submitted by States pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) during the coming work period. A team of two experts will advise the Committee on matters concerning the provision of assistance to States in implementing the resolution and will liaise with other international institutions,

regional organizations and Governments on this matter. The Secretariat has identified a wider pool of experts who will be available to advise the Committee as required and will continue to gather the curricula vitae of candidates nominated by States. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will draw on this pool as required.

3. Reporting by States

The Committee and its subcommittees will continue to review the reports submitted by States pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee had by 24 June received 160 reports from Member States and four reports from non-member States and others. Six Member States were in contact with the Committee on the submission of a report; 23 States had made no contact with the Committee.

The Committee has invited all States that have not yet submitted a report, if they would find it helpful, to meet the relevant subcommittee to discuss the issues relating to the submission of a report.

As requested by the Committee, States have begun to submit secondary, follow-up reports. The Committee has begun a second review of the implementation by those countries of resolution 1373 (2001). In the course of the second review, the Committee intends to be more direct with States in identifying gaps in the implementation of the resolution and recommending appropriate action. The Committee also intends, in conjunction with the State concerned, to identify areas where assistance might be beneficial in facilitating the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee will also liaise with potential providers in this area (see below).

4. Assistance

The Committee has established an online directory of sources of advice and expertise in the areas covered by resolution 1373 (2001). (The web site can be found at http://www.un.org/docs/sc/committees/1373/.) This directory is designed to be of assistance to Governments by enabling them to benefit from best practice when taking steps to implement that resolution. The Committee encourages all States and international, regional and subregional organizations to submit information to the directory as requested in the note verbale of 27 November 2001. The Directory will be updated immediately as new information is submitted.

Member States requiring assistance may so inform the Committee, either in their reports or separately at any time. As noted above, the Committee will continue its contacts with potential assistance providers with a view to ensuring that States receive the assistance they need. The Committee's team of two experts will take the lead in this work.

5. Dialogue with regional and subregional organizations

The Committee has taken steps to establish a dialogue with international, regional and subregional organizations that have or intend to have counter-terrorism programmes on the matters covered by resolution 1373 (2001). It intends to liaise with such organizations on assistance matters, as noted above. The Committee will also encourage those organizations, as appropriate, to consider developing action

plans relating to the implementation by their members of resolution 1373 (2001) and to facilitate the sharing of best practice and expertise within the region.

6. Transparency in the work of the Committee

The Committee will continue to communicate regularly information on its activities, including through briefings by the Chairman to interested delegations. It will also maintain an informative web site on its activities (to be found at http://www.un.org/docs/sc/committees/1373/). The Chairman and experts will continue to inform organizations outside the United Nations of the Committee's work through attendance at regional meetings and conferences.

United Nations S/2002/701

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 June 2002

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Letter dated 25 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a note verbale on the wrap-up session of the Security Council to be held on 28 June 2002.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the text of the present letter and the annexed note verbale as a document of the Security Council

(*Signed*) Mikhail **Wehbe**
Ambassador

02-44188 (E) 250602

Annex

Note verbale on the wrap-up session of the Security Council to be held on 28 June 2002

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations, in his capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of June 2002, presents his compliments and has the honour to refer to the wrap-up session on the work of the Security Council that has been scheduled for Friday, 28 June 2002, in the Security Council chamber.

In this regard, the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations has the further honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have agreed that the June 2002 wrap-up session will be a private meeting, to which non-members of the Council are encouraged to attend. The participation of members and non-members of the Council at the June 2002 wrap-up session will focus on the topics set out below, not in any order of priority:

1. The situation in Afghanistan;
2. The situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
3. The situation in the Middle East;
4. The situation in Somalia.

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, encourages all speakers to make frank, focused and short assessments in their interventions on the role of the Council in dealing with any or all of the above topics so that the interventions may serve as useful guides for the future work of the Council. Speakers are therefore encouraged to be as evaluative and reflective as possible in their interventions. In this respect, it is intended that the June 2002 wrap-up session should be an interactive discussion and should not be used as an opportunity to restate national positions on any issue. In order for the June 2002 wrap-up session to be a substantive one, the greater involvement of all Member States is important and necessary.

Non-members of the Council who wish to participate in the June 2002 wrap-up session are encouraged to do so by submitting their requests in accordance with the usual practices. The list of non-members who wish to speak at the wrap-up session will therefore be opened only on Wednesday, 26 June 2002, and will be closed at 5 p.m. on the day before the wrap-up session, i.e., on Thursday, 27 June 2002.

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, has the further honour to inform you that, in order to encourage the interventions to be brief and focused on the role of the Council, there is no need at the wrap-up session for speakers to congratulate the Syrian Arab Republic on its Presidency of the Council for the month of June 2002.

In this regard, please also note that all interventions will be strictly limited to five minutes for each speaker, irrespective of the number of topics covered in the intervention. The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic in his capacity as President of the Security Council reserves the right to interrupt any speaker who goes beyond the time limit prescribed. The floor will be given alternately to three Council members and non-members. After the wrap-up session

and if appropriate, the Presidency may prepare a summary paper on the main points raised at the wrap-up session, indicating the areas covered and suggestions for follow-up action (as was done for the June 2001 wrap-up session; see S/2001/835).

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, also has the honour to inform you that the present letter, which sets out the objectives, list of the topics and format for the June 2002 wrap-up session, will be placed on the web site of the Presidency of the Security Council (http://www.un.org/docs/sc/presidency). A notice of the wrap-up session will also be placed in the *Journal of the United Nations* on Wednesday, 26 June 2002, as a further reminder to all non-members of the Council who may wish to be inscribed on the list of speakers for the session.

(*Signed*) Mikhail **Wehbe**
President of the Security Council for the month of June 2002

United Nations A/56/996–S/2002/702

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
25 June 2002
English
Original: Spanish

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 25 June 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement of 23 June 2002 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba on the warning issued by the Republic of Cuba concerning a possible escape by the notorious terrorist Luis Posada Carriles.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 166 and as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Orlando **Requeijo Gual**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 25 June 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba

Warning of possible escape of the notorious terrorist Luis Posada Carriles

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has learnt that Mr. Rogelio Cruz, defence lawyer of the notorious terrorist Luis Posada Carriles, recently announced that his client had been transferred to a private clinic in Panama on the grounds of deteriorating health.

In view of this news, the Ministry considers it necessary to recall how the trial against Luis Posada Carriles was conducted, since it was characterized from the outset by irregularities, politically motivated decisions and actions designed to encourage escape by the terrorists or impunity for their crimes.

Shortly after the authorities of the Republic of Panama had rejected the justified extradition request made by the Cuban judicial authorities against the four terrorists, for crimes committed by them for decades against our people, as fully documented in four extradition applications with over 2,000 pages, a group of labour, student and indigenous organizations in the Republic of Panama submitted four complaints against the detained terrorists.

Our people will recall that the attack planned against the life of the Commander-in-Chief was to be perpetrated in the auditorium of the University of Panama, during a manifestation of solidarity with Cuba. If it had not been for the cooperation of the Cuban security agencies and the rapid action by the Panamanian security agencies, hundreds of people would have perished, including Panamanian workers, students and indigenous persons participating in the manifestation.

At the time, these four complaints were inexplicably rejected by a Panamanian court. Although the organizations concerned appealed to the Supreme Court of Panama, on the grounds that the complaints were relevant to the trial taking place against the four terrorists, they are still awaiting a decision from the highest tribunal of the Republic of Panama. If this opinion is favourable, these complaints would provide the Panamanian courts with additional elements enabling them to judge and sentence the accused.

Simultaneously with this lack of decision, our people also learnt that, because of judicial procedures existing in the Republic of Panama, the four terrorists would be tried not for attempted murder (for which more severe penalties could obviously be imposed on them) but solely for possession of weapons, complicity to commit an offence, offences against public safety and illegal entry into the country (offences of lesser seriousness).

In addition, attempts were made by Panamanian members of the judiciary to recuse themselves from presiding over the tribunal that would judge the case, so that once again the intervention of Panama's higher courts was required.

Concurrently with these strange events, there has been unusual activity by the Miami terrorist Mafia, with repeated trips to Panama, appearances by some of their leaders on Panamanian television and even interviews with Panamanian authorities, all related to the case of the four detained terrorists and their attempts to achieve impunity for their accomplices.

Our Government even found that terrorists of Cuban origin residing in United States territory who had participated with Luis Posada Carriles and his accomplices in the failed attack of November 2000 against Comrade Fidel and who were also being sought by our judicial authorities for other terrorist acts against Cuba were among those regularly visiting the terrorists in Panama.

These include the terrorist Santiago Alvarez Fernández-Magriña. He is the subject of Case No. 10 of the year 2001 before the Investigative Organ of the Department of State Security of the Republic of Cuba, which shows that he financed and organized an attempt to infiltrate our country by three individuals belonging to the F-4 terrorist organization, based in the state of Florida, in the United States, who were captured at sea by security agencies of the Republic of Cuba after a fight and who were in possession of automatic and semi-automatic rifles and other military-type weapons.

Consequently, in accordance with the Panamanian Judicial Code and with international practice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested on 16 May 2002, through the Cuban Embassy in Panama, the provisional detention for purposes of extradition of the above-mentioned terrorist Santiago Alvarez Fernández-Magriña.

It is well known that such persons who travel regularly from Miami to intercede for detained terrorists are organizing escape plans and providing the necessary resources for their execution, in a plot similar to the one which enabled Luis Posada Carriles to escape from a Venezuelan prison.

In addition, in recent weeks, following the request for extradition of Posada Carriles submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the lawyer Rogelio Cruz himself published a paid article in the Panamanian press in which he tried to claim that his client had not "escaped" from a Venezuelan prison but had simply "departed" on foot without being stopped by anyone. He also tried to plead the innocence of Luis Posada Carriles of the Barbados crime, describing him as a scapegoat unjustly accused by our Government. Mr. Rogelio Cruz seems to have forgotten the accounts given by the terrorist Posada Carriles himself a few years ago to the American press, in which he not only acknowledged his crimes against Cuba and its people but boasted of them.

In addition to the unjustified rejection by the authorities of the Republic of Panama of the Cuban extradition request, the lack of response to the extradition request made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the numerous judicial irregularities that we have witnessed in this trial and the constant visits to Panama by Miami Mafiosi, now we have the transfer of the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles to the San Fernando private clinic, instead of to the prisoners' ward in the Santo Tomás Hospital, where the Panamanian authorities have the necessary security arrangements to prevent the escape which is perhaps being plotted.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs cannot help but find this procedure most strange, especially as it was authorized by the President of the Second Tribunal of the Republic of Panama, Mr. Joaquín Ortega, who at the time rejected the

complaints brought against the four terrorists by the Panamanian labour, student and indigenous organizations.

On previous occasions, when these terrorists have been transferred to hospital facilities without proper supervision or adequate security, our Government has complained that the transfer of terrorists to such facilities is one of the steps towards a possible escape and has alerted the Panamanian authorities to their responsibility to ensure that such dangerous and sinister persons, who are supported and given financial and other resources by their terrorist network in Central America and the United States, do not escape justice.

On this occasion, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is issuing a similar warning to prevent a possible escape by the terrorist Posada Carriles and has again reminded the Panamanian authorities of their responsibility to take appropriate measures to prevent the execution of the plans formulated and financed by terrorist groups of Cuban origin currently operating with impunity from the territory of the United States, where some of them and their leaders have such excellent relations with Mr. Bush that they participated in his act of 20 May 2002.

Havana, 23 June 2002

United Nations S/2002/703

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 June 2002

Original: English

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on Afghanistan, in particular its resolution 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001,

Reaffirming also its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Reaffirming also its strong commitment to help the people of Afghanistan to bring to an end the tragic conflicts in Afghanistan and promote lasting peace, stability, and respect for human rights,

Reaffirming also its strong support for international efforts to root out terrorism, in keeping with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming also its resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001 and 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001,

Reiterating its endorsement of the Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions, signed in Bonn on 5 December 2001 (S/2001/1154) (the Bonn Agreement), and *welcoming* initial steps for its implementation, including the establishment of the Human Rights and Judicial Commissions,

1. *Welcomes* the successful and peaceful holding, from 11 June to 19 June, of the Emergency Loya Jirga opened by former King Mohammed Zaher, the "Father of the Nation", and *notes* with particular satisfaction the large participation of women, as well as the representation of all ethnic and religious communities;

2. *Commends* the Afghan people for the success of the Emergency Loya Jirga and encourages them to continue to exercise their inalienable right to determine freely their own political future;

3. *Welcomes* the election, by the Emergency Loya Jirga, of the Head of State, President Hamid Karzai, and the establishment of the Transitional Authority;

4. *Reiterates* its strong support for the Transitional Authority in the full implementation of the Bonn Agreement, including the establishment of a Constitutional Commission, and in strengthening the central government, building a national army and police force, implementing demobilization/reintegration activities and improving the security situation throughout Afghanistan, combating illicit drug trafficking, ensuring respect for human rights, implementing judicial sector reform,

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establishing the basis for a sound economy and reconstructing productive capacity and infrastructure;

5. *Calls on* all Afghan groups, in this regard, to cooperate fully with the Transitional Authority in order to complete the process according to the Bonn Agreement and to implement the decisions of the Emergency Loya Jirga;

6. *Urges* the Transitional Authority to build on efforts of the Interim Administration to eradicate the annual poppy crop;

7. *Urges also* the Transitional Authority to build further on efforts of the Interim Administration to promote the welfare and interests of Afghan women and children and to provide education to boys and girls;

8. *Commends* the role of the United Nations system in support of efforts by the Afghans, *reiterates* its strong support for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), and *reaffirms* its endorsement of the full authority of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, in accordance with its relevant resolutions, over the planning and conduct of all United Nations activities in Afghanistan;

9. *Commends also* the contribution of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in providing a secure environment for the Emergency Loya Jirga;

10. *Stresses* once again the importance of continued international support to complete the process according to the Bonn Agreement, *calls upon* donor countries that pledged financial aid at the Tokyo conference to fulfil their commitments promptly and *calls upon* all Member States to support the Transitional Authority and to provide long-term assistance, as well as current budget support, for the current expenses of the Transitional Authority, and for the social and economic reconstruction and rehabilitation of Afghanistan as a whole;

11. *Calls for* significantly greater and more rapid international assistance to the vast number of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their orderly return and effective reintegration into society in order to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

12. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups to support full and unimpeded access by humanitarian organizations to people in need and to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian workers;

13. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

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Security Council

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Letter dated 11 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to attach herewith the assessment of the work of the Security Council for the month of April 2002 (see annex).

This assessment has been prepared under my own responsibility following consultations with members of the Council, pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council dated 12 June 1997 (S/1997/451), and should not be considered as representing the views of the Council.

I should be grateful if the present letter and the attached assessment could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Ambassador

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Annex to the letter dated 11 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of the Russian Federation (April 2002)

Introduction

In April 2002, under the presidency of Ambassador Sergey Lavrov, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation, the Security Council dealt with a number of important issues.

A major focus of the attention of the Council during the month was the situation in the Middle East, particularly in the occupied territories. This issue was considered by the Council 34 times at public and private meetings and in closed consultations.

The Council was also actively seized of issues regarding Afghanistan, Bougainville (Papua New Guinea), Cyprus, East Timor, Georgia, Iraq/Kuwait and Western Sahara. An important public meeting was devoted to the progress in the implementation of resolution 1244 (1999) regarding the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Much of the Security Council's time was dedicated to African issues: Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea/Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia. The work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee was reviewed at a public meeting and in consultations. The Council sent a mission to the Great Lakes region.

During the month of April the Council adopted four resolutions and three presidential statements. It held 16 public meetings and 4 private meetings and its members met in informal consultations on 34 occasions. On one occasion the Council held a meeting with troop-contributing countries.

Through its web site, the presidency published the provisional programme of work of the Council and statements to the press which the President was authorized to make on behalf of the Council members.

Africa

Angola

On 18 April the Council adopted resolution 1404 (2002), by which it extended the mandate of the monitoring mechanism established pursuant to resolution 1295 (2000) for a further period of six months, until 19 October 2002. In the resolution the monitoring mechanism is requested to report periodically to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 864 (1993), and to provide a follow-up report on the implementation of the sanctions against UNITA.

On 23 April the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Africa, Ibrahim Gambari, briefed the Security Council on his mission to Angola where, on 4 April, he witnessed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Angola and UNITA. The Special Adviser highlighted recent progress in the peace process in the country and said that the chances of returning to war in Angola were negligible, but that the irreversibility of the peace process would depend on a number of factors: the quartering of soldiers of UNITA had to be done properly and on schedule; the humanitarian needs of their families must be met adequately; conditions must be created for the promotion of national reconciliation; and UNITA should emerge as a united political party and credible interlocutor in the Angola peace process. Seven critical areas where the United Nations might play a supporting role were listed. They included military observation of the UNITA quartering process, provision of technical and managerial support in quartering areas, demobilization, reintegration and humanitarian support, and electoral assistance. The United Nations is also expected to chair the Joint Commission during the second phase of the peace process.

Burundi

On 22 April the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Danilo Türk, briefed the Council on the situation in Burundi. He alerted the Council to the difficulties that could emerge in the absence of an agreement on a cessation of hostilities.

Following consultations, the President of the Council made a statement to the press reiterating the

support of Council members for the efforts of the facilitation and regional initiative to expedite ceasefire negotiations, and calling on all belligerents to cease hostilities immediately and on the armed groups to enter into ceasefire negotiations without further delay with a view to concluding a ceasefire agreement. Members of the Council commended the work of the Tripartite Commission to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees, called on the international community to support the process in the framework of the Arusha Agreement and urged the donor community to increase assistance to Burundi.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Council members were briefed on 2 April by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, on the latest developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, specifically on the alleged military presence of the Congolese Armed Forces in the vicinity of Moliro. The Council members called on all Congolese parties to withdraw all armed elements from Moliro and asked them to respect scrupulously resolution 1399 (2002).

On 10 April the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Marie Guéhenno, briefed the Council on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on the progress achieved at the inter-Congolese dialogue in Sun City, South Africa. He also introduced the first assessment report prepared by MONUC on the armed groups operating in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

On 23 April the Council members welcomed the significant progress made in the inter-Congolese dialogue at Sun City on 19 April. They noted that the political agreement reached through the dialogue between the Government and MLC, to which a majority of the participants were also parties, could facilitate the political transition and help to consolidate the regional peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo based on the Lusaka Agreement and the resolutions of the Security Council.

Eritrea and Ethiopia

During consultations of the whole on 10 April, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council on the situation in Ethiopia and Eritrea in anticipation of the announcement of the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission on 13 April.

On 13 April a statement was issued to the press by the President of the Security Council on the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission, announced in The Hague.

On 16 April members of the Council heard briefings by the Secretary-General and his Special Representative, Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, on the Boundary Commission's decision on the delimitation of the border between the two countries. Members of the Council welcomed the decision and highly appreciated the role played by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, UNMEE and the United Nations in achieving such an outcome. They called on both Governments to closely cooperate with the Boundary Commission and UNMEE in the implementation without delay of the border decision and all aspects of the demarcation process.

Guinea-Bissau

On 10 April the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Ibrahima Fall, presented to the Council the Secretary-General's report on the situation in Guinea-Bissau.

Members of the Council took note of a slight overall improvement with respect to the political situation in Guinea-Bissau, although certain crucial aspects of the settlement still caused concern. They called upon the Government of Guinea-Bissau and the international donor community to do all in their power to move ahead decisively to implement the current demobilization plan and restructure the armed forces.

Liberia

On 22 April the Council considered the report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia. The Chairman of the Committee established by resolution 1343 (2001) briefed Council members on the results of the Committee's preliminary discussion on the recommendations contained in the report. It was noted that there had been significant progress in settlement of the conflict in Sierra Leone and improvement of the relationship between States members of the Mano River Union since the adoption of resolution 1343 (2001). At the same time the Council members recognized that the political situation in the subregion remained unstable. Many Council members were of the

view that Liberia still had not fully complied with the demands of the Council, and indicated their support for the extension of the measures imposed by resolution 1343 (2001).

Western Sahara

The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council on 25 April on the latest developments on the ground in Western Sahara. Members of the Council discussed the four options for settling the dispute over the territory described in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 February 2002. On 30 April they unanimously adopted resolution 1406 (2002) extending the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara until 31 July 2002 in order to consider further the above-mentioned report.

Asia

Afghanistan

On 5 April members of the Council heard a regular briefing from the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan, which was devoted to the security situation and related issues. It was noted that some progress had been achieved in the security area in Kabul, owing to the activities of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Members of the Council stressed the need to continue efforts to improve security throughout the country, especially during the period of work of the Loya Jirga. They welcomed the proposals by the Interim Administration on security sector reform and expressed their gratitude to those countries that were providing assistance to the Afghans in that area. Council members highly appreciated the activities of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, Lakhdar Brahimi, and UNAMA, and supported the United Nations role as coordinator of international efforts in Afghanistan.

At a public meeting on 25 April the Council was addressed by Sima Samar, Vice-Chairman of the Interim Administration of Afghanistan and Minister for Women. She expressed deep appreciation to the United Nations and the Security Council for supporting the peace process in Afghanistan and their commitment to assisting in its reconstruction and rebuilding. She specifically stressed the need to provide security throughout the country and spoke in favour of the expansion of ISAF beyond Kabul.

At the same meeting the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Kieran Prendergast, made a regular briefing on the situation in Afghanistan. He particularly addressed the process of convening the Loya Jirga, and touched upon the activities of UNAMA and ISAF. He also informed the Council of the measures taken by the Interim Administration to eradicate the poppy crop and the latest developments in security sector reform, the return of refugees and reconstruction assistance.

Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

On 17 April the Head of the United Nations Political Office in Bougainville, Noel Sinclair, briefed the Council on the achievements of the peace process. Members of the Council welcomed the actions of the Parliament of Papua New Guinea that gave legal effect to the bills implementing the Peace Agreement and called upon all the parties to redouble efforts aimed at the removal of weapons from Bougainville communities, which is crucial for post-conflict rehabilitation and peace-building.

East Timor

On 16 April the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council on the first presidential elections held in East Timor. Members of the Council welcomed the successful holding of the vote and the commitment of the people of East Timor to peaceful coexistence and democracy.

On 26 and 29 April a public meeting of the Security Council was held to discuss proposals for the United Nations role in East Timor after independence put forward in the latest report of the Secretary-General. The President-elect, Xanana Gusmão, the Chief Minister, Mari Bin Amude Alkatiri, and the Secretary-General addressed the participants. Members of the Council noted with satisfaction that the United Nations had made a historic contribution to the transition of East Timor from a non-self-governing territory through a United Nations Transitional Administration to an independent State. They reaffirmed their view that the United Nations system should continue to play an important role in further assisting the people of East Timor together with the bilateral and multilateral donors, regional mechanisms,

non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other possible actors from within the international community.

Iraq

On 4 April the Council was briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the report of the Secretary-General on UNIKOM.

The President of the Security Council sent a letter to the Secretary-General stating that the Council members agreed with his recommendation to extend the mandate of UNIKOM for another period of six months.

On 17 April the United Nations High-level Coordinator, Yuli Vorontsov, presented to the Council the latest report on the repatriation of Kuwaiti and third-country nationals. Members of the Council expressed their hope that this issue would continue to be dealt with as a strictly humanitarian one by all sides concerned.

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 1 April the Secretary-General briefed the Council on the situation in the Middle East and called on both Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Chairman Yasser Arafat to exercise responsible leadership. In the afternoon, the Council met in consultations to discuss a request from the Arab Group to hold an urgent public meeting.

On 2 April the Council held two private meetings on the Middle East with the Permanent Representative of Israel and the Permanent Observer of Palestine.

During the luncheon the same day the Secretary-General shared with members of the Council his assessment of the Arab summit in Beirut and expressed his concern about the situation in the Middle East, particularly along the Blue Line.

The Security Council held a public meeting on the Middle East on 3 April followed by consultations.

On 4 April members of the Council heard a briefing from the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the incident in which a number of United Nations military observers were assaulted by Hezbollah in the area of the Blue Line.

Also on 4 April the Council resumed its public meeting on the Middle East. The Secretary-General addressed Council members. The Council unanimously adopted resolution 1403 (2002), in which it demanded the implementation of resolution 1402 (2002) without delay and welcomed the efforts of the Quartet envoys and the mission to the region of the United States Secretary of State.

On 6 April the President of the Council met with the Permanent Representative of Tunisia as Chairman of the Arab Group, together with the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Permanent Observer of Palestine, who submitted a request for the convening of a public meeting on the Middle East. Following this request of the Arab Group, the Council met on 7 April in consultations, during which some members insisted on pressing their request for a public meeting, while others emphasized the necessity for the Council to meet privately and separately with Israeli and Palestinian representatives.

On 8 April the Council held private meetings with the Permanent Representative of Israel and the Permanent Observer of Palestine. The same day during the consultations the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council members on developments in the Middle East. In the afternoon the Council held a public meeting on the issue.

The Council resumed the public meeting on the Middle East on 9 April. In the afternoon during consultations of the whole the Council discussed a draft resolution introduced by the Syrian Arab Republic on behalf of the Arab Group and the States members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

On 10 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the situation on the ground in the Middle East and on the Secretary-General's participation in the meeting of the Quartet in Madrid. The same day after consultations the Council adopted at a formal meeting a presidential statement (S/PRST/2002/9) expressing its support for the joint statement on the Middle East issued at Madrid by the Quartet.

On 12 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the situation in the Middle East, including the Secretary-General's observations on an international force which might be deployed in the Middle East, stressing that it should be a multinational and not a United Nations force.

On 18 April the Secretary-General informed the Council of his views on the possible deployment of a multinational force in the area of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He emphasized that such a force should be authorized by a Security Council resolution under Chapter VII. Members of the Council expressed their deep concern over the situation in the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank. In the afternoon the Council held a public meeting on the Middle East.

On 19 April after consultations the Council resumed the public meeting. Later that day, following intensive consultations on a draft resolution, the Council met again in a public meeting and unanimously adopted resolution 1405 (2002), in which it emphasized the urgency of access of humanitarian organizations to the Palestinian civilian population and welcomed the initiative of the Secretary-General to develop accurate information on recent events in the Jenin refugee camp through a fact-finding team.

During consultations of the whole on 23 April members of the Council expressed their full support for the implementation of resolution 1405 (2002) and their hope that Israel would cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and the fact-finding team. Council members also expressed serious concern for the safety of Chairman Arafat and emphasized that the siege of the Palestinian Authority compound must be lifted.

During consultations on 24 April the Council members confirmed to the Secretary-General their support for his efforts to implement resolution 1405 (2002). The Syrian Arab Republic circulated a draft resolution relating to the matter. Members of the Council agreed to put off a vote on the draft pending the Secretariat's meeting with the Israeli delegation.

On 25 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the talks with the Israeli delegation concerning the fact-finding team. Members of the Council expressed the hope that various political efforts under way would bring positive changes on the ground, including a non-violent resolution of the situation around the Palestinian Authority compound in Ramallah and the earliest arrival of a fact-finding mission in the region.

On 26 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council about the Secretary-General's proposal to dispatch a multinational force to the area of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

During the consultations on 28 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on developments with regard to the fact-finding team. The Council members remained firm in their insistence on the full implementation of resolution 1405 (2002) and were concerned by the delay in the arrival of the fact-finding team. They pointed out that they were expecting a positive report on the decision of the Israeli Cabinet on the team the following day. The Council members supported the Secretary-General's letters sent on 27 April to the Permanent Representative of Israel and the Permanent Observer of Palestine containing clarifications about the team.

On 29 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs informed the Council that the Israeli Cabinet would take a decision on the fact-finding team on 30 April because on 29 April there was no meeting of the Cabinet. Meanwhile in Geneva the team continued to get ready for the implementation of its mandate. Some members of the Council reported on the intensive diplomatic efforts under way to find a solution to the siege of the Palestinian Authority headquarters in Ramallah and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

On 30 April the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs informed the Council that the Israeli Cabinet refused to accept the fact-finding team in Jenin until such time as the necessary conditions would be met. Under the circumstances, the Secretary-General intended to disband the team. On behalf of the Arab Group, the Syrian Arab Republic circulated a revised draft resolution in provisional form, but no action was taken.

Europe

Cyprus

On 4 April members of the Council were briefed by the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Cyprus, Alvaro de Soto, on the results of the second round of direct talks on Cyprus between the two leaders. After the discussion the Council members agreed on a statement to the press by the President of the Security Council in which they expressed their full support for the negotiation process undertaken by the two leaders pursuant to their agreement of 4 December 2001. In

particular they urged the two leaders to focus without delay on narrowing the differences between them on all issues that must be resolved, as part of a comprehensive settlement which takes fully into account relevant United Nations resolutions and international treaties.

Georgia

On 5 April the representative of the Russian Federation informed the Council about the decision by the heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States to extend the mandate of the CIS peacekeeping force in Abkhazia, Georgia, until the end of June 2002 and to consider eventual changes in the mandate of the force with regard to possible expansion of the security zone and additional measures to secure the return of refugees and internally displaced persons.

On 29 April the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations presented a report on the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia. He described the efforts to bring about negotiations between the Abkhaz and Georgian sides on the basis of the paper by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Dieter Boden, on basic principles for the distribution of competences between Tbilisi and Sukhumi. He said that the Abkhaz consistently refused to accept the paper because they claimed Abkhazia's status had already been determined. He stressed that the presence of Georgian troops in the upper Kodori Valley, in violation of the Moscow Agreement, has been a continuing source of concern. He added that Georgia's inability to provide security guarantees had caused the joint CIS peacekeeping force/UNOMIG patrol of the Kodori Valley, scheduled for 25 and 26 April, to be postponed. Consequently, Georgian compliance with the protocol of 2 April could not be verified.

Members of the Council expressed their support for the start of negotiations between the Abkhaz and Georgian sides on the basis of the paper on the distribution of competences. It was noted that trust and confidence must be restored between the sides and that both sides had a responsibility to reduce tensions and begin political negotiations. The Georgian side was called on to fulfil its obligations under relevant protocols to withdraw its troops from the upper Kodori Valley and create conditions for the independent verification of the withdrawal through regular patrols of UNOMIG and the CIS peacekeeping force.

Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

At a public meeting on 24 April the Security Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Kosovo, Michael Steiner, on recent developments in the process of establishing the provisional institutions of self-government and rebuilding social and economic infrastructures in the province. The priorities for the further activity of the Mission were underlined and a concept of benchmarks to measure the progress in Kosovo's institutional development, consistent with resolution 1244 (1999) and the constitutional framework, was introduced. The Deputy Prime Minister of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia and President of the Coordination Centre of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia for Kosovo and Metohija, Nebojša Čović, participated in the open discussion, which focused on a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of resolution 1244 (1999). Members of the Council encouraged UNMIK and the international security presence (KFOR) in their further efforts to implement fully resolution 1244 (1999) and addressed critical areas: the rule of law, public security, the sustainable return of all displaced persons, peaceful coexistence and freedom of movement for all the inhabitants of Kosovo, and economic development.

On the same day at a formal meeting the Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2002/11) relating to the matter.

Counter-terrorism

On 2 April members of the Council heard a report by Sir Jeremy Greenstock, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom and Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, with respect to the current activity of the Committee and its future work as set out in the programme for the Committee's third 90-day period. At a public meeting on 15 April the Chairman gave a briefing on the activities of the Committee. Discussion focused on furthering the Committee's mandate, building a dialogue with international, regional and subregional organizations engaged in the areas covered by the resolution, and exploring ways in which States could be assisted to implement its provisions.

On 15 April, the Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2002/10), in which it welcomed and confirmed the continuation of the current chairmanship and bureau arrangements of the Committee for a further six months, invited the Committee to report on its activities at regular intervals and agreed to review the structure and activities of the Committee again no later than 4 October 2002.

Food aid in the context of conflict settlement

At a public meeting on 4 April the Security Council was briefed by the outgoing Executive Director of the World Food Programme, Catherine Bertini, on the role of food aid in the context of conflict settlement, particularly in Afghanistan and other crisis areas. The role of food aid not only in putting an end to major famines worldwide but also as an important factor contributing to conflict prevention, recovery and reconstruction, and stabilizing countries in crisis was emphasized. Members of the Council recognized the important work of WFP in Afghanistan and in other conflict areas dealt with by the Council, and highly appreciated the personal efforts of Ms. Bertini during her tenure to make WFP adequately respond to the tasks it faced.